

ROLL OUT: ISOLATION BARRIER DECISION ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE: Week of March 16 or March 23, 2015 (tentative)

ACTION: EPA Region 7 will announce its decision regarding an isolation barrier at the West Lake landfill

OVERVIEW:

In 2013, Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster ordered Republic Services to establish trigger points which would require the installation an isolation barrier between the radiological contaminants in OU1 of the West Lake Landfill and the subsurface smoldering event in the Bridgeton landfill. Rather than wait for trigger points to hit, Republic Services initiated design and construction planning for an isolation barrier at that time. Since then, EPA, with technical support from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), has served in an oversight role as the PRPs developed potential isolation barrier alternatives. The USACE has reviewed the proposed alternatives for their technical merit and feasibility and written a letter to EPA outlining their findings. EPA will send a letter to the PRPs, which incorporates the findings of the USACE's review, which announces the agencies decision on the barrier.

REGION 7 EMPHASIS KEY MESSAGES/STATEMENTS:

Anticipated Reactions:

The announcement will generate significant interest from the press, community, and elected officials. EPA Region 7 will need to conduct significant outreach prior to and after announcement of the decision. Anticipate negative reaction from some community members and local environmental organizations. Reaction by elected officials is uncertain, but possibility of

negative reaction may be mitigated by robust outreach to elected official offices prior to announcement.

MATERIALS:

External:

- Letter to PRPs announcing isolation barrier decision
- West Lake Update detailing the findings of USACE and EPA and explaining the decision making process

EPA Contacts for this Action:

Recommended Federal, State, and Local Official Contacts:

It is recommended that Mark Hague conduct conference calls with the Missouri members of Congress who have had the most interest in the site:

Sen. Claire McCaskill

Sen. Roy Blunt

Rep. Ann Wagner

Rep. William Lacy Clay

Recommended local official contacts:

State Rep. Bill Otto

Conrad Bowers – Kansas City Mayor

Matt LaVanchy – Pattonville Fire District

Doug Clemens – CAG chair

ROLL-OUT SCHEDULE/Timeline:

Tentative. Potentially week of March 16 or March 23.